



Office use: Petition number

PE2014-001

Updated 09/01/2023

PETITION SUBMISSION FORM

If you wish to submit a petition for consideration by The Moray Council, please complete this form. For guidance, further information or advice on the submission of a petition please contact the Democratic Services Manager on 01343 563016 or email committee.services@moray.gov.uk, or alternatively refer to information on www.moray.gov.uk/petitions

Details of principal petitioner submitting the petition

Please enter the name of person and organisation you represent (if applicable) and who is raising the petition.

Include a contact address to which correspondence may be sent, a contact telephone number and e-mail address if available so that we can contact you with any queries.

Name: Clare Stables

Address: 15, Rose Lane, 17430

Postcode: 17430

Tel No: 01343 563016

E mail: clare.stables@moray.gov.uk

Title of the Petition

To request a review of the policy and procedures for the allocation Early Learning and Childcare places in Moray

Petition Statement - Please state (**in no more than 250 words**) what action the Petitioner wishes the Council to take. If you require you can attach a typed sheet to this form with the detail.

We, the undersigned, call on The Moray Council to review the policy and procedures for allocation of Early Learning and Childcare places in Moray to ensure:

[a] there is adequate provision within each secondary school area to enable families living in that area to access appropriate ELC within their 20 minute neighbourhood.

[b] that, where reasonably practicable, children can receive their funded entitlement at times and locations that best support their learning and development, and fit with the needs of their parents/carers.

[c] that the criteria used to allocate places takes particular account of the needs of vulnerable families and children with additional support needs, including minimizing travel time and cost, enabling siblings to attend the same provision, and ensuring smooth transition to Primary School.

Cont.

Action taken (if any) to resolve issues of concern before submitting the petition

Before a petition is submitted, petitioners are expected to have taken reasonable steps in attempting to resolve the issues.

Please enter below details of any individuals or organisations approached.
Copies of correspondence, including any responses, should be attached.

This information will be made available when this Petition is considered.

I have spoken to local Councillors and to my MSP.

Background Information

Please note any other background information that you think we should be made aware of.

Families without access to a car struggle to take children to ELC provision outwith walking distance.

Public transport isn't always available, and having to use it adds to the overall cost which is an issue when families are struggling with the cost-of-living crisis.

Use of any petrol or diesel transport is undesirable in the fight to reach Net Zero.

Siblings aren't guaranteed provision in the same establishment making it challenging to coordinate pick-up and drop-off, particularly in case of emergency. This adds stress, costs time and money, and limits the parents' availability for work.

Having an ELC placement within their Primary School catchment area enables children to have continuity from nursery to pre-school to primary, allowing them opportunity to develop social relationships with their future classmates and increasing the likelihood of a smooth transition to Primary Education.

Unless overall provision is increased, replacing half day sessions with full day sessions reduces the number of children who can benefit from a placement.

Other Proceedings

Please indicate the following to the best of your knowledge.

Are the issue(s) raised in the petition currently being handled or been submitted in the past as a formal complaint to Moray Council?

No

Are the issue(s) raised in the petition currently subject to any other formal processes in the council e.g. appeal or planning process

No

Are the issue(s) raised in the petition, currently subject to any other legal proceedings, e.g. information within is not subject to interdict or court order?

No

Appearance before a meeting considering the petition

The Chairperson of the appropriate Committee who hears the petition will invite the petitioner to appear before the meeting to speak in support of their petition. This is useful in assisting elected members to reach a decision.

Please indicate below whether you wish to submit a request to make a brief statement to the Committee when it is considering your petition. Please note that you will be asked to submit a written summary of your comment 3 days prior to the meeting.

***I DO wish the opportunity to make a brief statement before the Meeting**

Signature of Principal Petitioner

When satisfied that the petition meets all the criteria outlined in the *Guidance to Submission of Petitions*, the Principal Petitioner should sign and date the form in the box below.

Any additional sheets of signatures should be attached to the form.

Signature Date *12 Jan 2024*

Name of signatory in block capitals *CLARE STABLES*

Number of people who have signed the petition

187